

October 9, 2009

The Glastonbury Town Council
2155 Main Street
Glastonbury, CT 06033

Re: Town Manager's Report

Dear Council Members:

The following will keep you up-to-date on various topics:

1. Tryon Street/Dug Road Drainage:

Council recently received a petition requesting drainage improvements in the Tryon Street/Dug Road area. This is a long standing issue which Town staff has been working to resolve. The most cost effective solution requires a drainage easement across land located between Tryon Street and the Connecticut River. This involves 2 landowners. One has agreed to the concept and discussions continue with the second. Without both easements, the solution is far more costly and requires a significant drainage project along Ferry Lane. I recently met with one of the landowners to review project specifics and to respond to his questions and concerns. At this point it appears both landowners will work with the Town to help make the cost effective solution possible. I should have definitive information for the October 27th meeting.

2. Arbor Acres Demolition Plan:

The attached page highlights planned structure demolition by Town forces at the former Arbor Acres site. This includes asbestos removal as applicable. The buildings highlighted in green will be removed by town forces, with the areas highlighted in dark pink too large for Town staff/equipment and will be handled by contractual services as funding allows. Disposition of the residential structures (4) located along Marlborough Road (brown) is subject to the master planning process for the entire 75 acres. Finally, the structure outlined in yellow will be retained for Town purposes.

3. State Grant – Academy:

In February 2008, the Town submitted an application for a \$500,000 State grant to support proposed improvements to the Academy building for municipal uses. The project description generally involved the improvements proposed as part of the municipal center concept presented at referendum in November 2008. The State recently awarded Glastonbury a \$200,000 grant for work at Academy consistent with the February 2008 application. This matter can be further reviewed during the upcoming budget process. In the meantime, I wanted to provide you with the basis for the recent award.

4. Natural Gas Fueled Vehicles:

By Council action in May 2009, funds were allocated to purchase 4 additional natural gas fueled sedans for the Town fleet. These vehicles are approved for State grant funding to fund the cost increase between unleaded and natural gas technology. At the time of funding, I advised of a pending CT Clean Cities Grant application through which Glastonbury participated with 31 other

companies and municipalities. The Glastonbury proposal involved a "fast fill" natural gas fueling station. I am pleased to advise the grant application is approved and will allow Glastonbury to construct a fast fill station. With this information, the additional natural gas fueled vehicles referenced above will be purchased and integrated to the fleet as replacement vehicles. A State grant for additional natural gas fueled vehicles is pending.

5. State Budget:

The recently enacted State budget funds statutory formula grants to Glastonbury generally consistent with the approved budget. Most significant statutory grants include ECS, Public School Transportation, LoCIP, and the annual Town Aid Road grant.

6. Telecommunications Coverage:

As requested, the Siting Council previously forwarded a telecommunications assessment map for the Town of Glastonbury. This was based on Siting Council data. Carriers providing service to Glastonbury were also asked to provide coverage assessments for their equipment. This information is now received and generally consistent with Siting Council data. With this information, potential communication tower locations can be better evaluated on a pro-active basis.

7. Electronics Recycling:

As briefly reported at the last meeting, Glastonbury, with CRRA, hosted an electronics recycling program in Glastonbury on Saturday, September 20th. The event attracted 858 residents representing approximately 26 communities.

8. Solid Waste Disposal:

The Town's contract with CRRA ends in 2012. Glastonbury will be participating in discussions with CRRA as to options for disposal of solid waste and CRCOG is also looking to evaluate options. Glastonbury will participate in this process as well. The CRCOG concept envisions a Solid Waste Authority made up and governed by participating towns working with a competitively selected vendor. As a first step, participating towns are asked to contribute \$500 to fund preparation of the documents required to establish a Solid Waste Authority. By taking this step communities are not committed to any further action. As the CRCOG process moves forward, there will be various phases at which point a community can elect to continue or discontinue participation. In my opinion, Glastonbury should contribute the requested \$500 to keep this process moving forward and be involved throughout to help identify and evaluate options.

I will be happy to review the preceding and any other items Tuesday evening.

Sincerely,

Richard J. Johnson
Town Manager

RJJ:yo